Coastal Carolina University
OLLI@CCU Newsletter
October 3, 2019

Important Information for OLLI Members

Our short member survey of 8 questions can be reached by clicking here. All responses are anonymous. So far, out of 1120 members, we have only heard from 68 of you. We would love to get a better sample to help us plan next semester.

The OLLI staff has been so excited about the fall festival scheduled for Oct. 31; we are in the process of creating a Halloween movie clip contest, planning arts and crafts activities, collecting a variety of games, and securing entertainment. However, we see that only 11 of you have signed up for this free event. If we do not see a significant increase in registration by the end of next week, then we will have no choice but to cancel. Please don’t disappoint us!

Don’t miss the upcoming special events! (Please register)

**Political and Economic Systems, Sat., Oct. 5, 9:30 (CEC)**
**Michael Latta**  XGOVT 493 C01
Dr. Latta will substitute for Rob Salvino in a lecture on capitalism.

**Local Celebrities’ Life Stories, Monday, Oct. 7, 10:00 (LEC)**
**Ed Piotrowski**  XPERS 203 L01
Chief Meteorologist of WPDE ABC 15 shares his life story.

**South Carolina Critters, Friday, Oct. 11, 10:00 (CEC)**
**Stephen Schabel**  XNAT 959 C03
Hear all about South Carolina birds from the director of education at the Center for Birds of Prey.

**Local Celebrities’ Life Stories, Monday, Oct. 14, 10:00 (LEC)**
**Issac and Tracy Bailey**  XPERS 203 L02
Hear the life stories of one of the Grand Strand’s favorite journalists and his wife, the founder and director of Freedom Readers.

**War and Society Colloquia, Friday, Oct. 11, 1:30 (CEC)**
**“Indian Wars” in Early America**  XGOVT 490 C01
**John Navin**, professor in CCU’s Department of History, will speak.

**Local Celebrities’ Life Stories, Monday, Oct. 21, 10:00 (LEC)**
**Page Kiniry**  XPERS 203 L03
Come meet the CEO of Brookgreen Gardens.

**Political and Economic Systems, Sat., Oct. 19, 9:30 (CEC)**
**Superabundance, Moral Hazard, and Self-Interest Rightly Understood**  XGOVT 494 C01
**Kim Hale**, assistant professor of politics.

Parking decals are available in our centers. Tickets are being issued in Conway for those without!

Student IDs are available on the main campus in Baxley Hall.
Staff Spotlight:
Gloria Barreto-Kaufman, Energized Bunny

Gloria Barreto-Kaufman is the newest staff member, but you would never know that from the way she is at ease with our students and instructors and the way she has jumped into the job with both feet. You may have ridden with her on an excursion, or seen her smiling face at the 79th Ave. and Conway centers, or seen her at an outreach event.

She moved here in November 2017 from Iowa, with her husband Jim. They had vacationed here for years and decided to purchase a condo as they knew they would eventually retire here to escape the winters of the Midwest.

Their immediate family includes four sons. The two oldest, James and Bryan, live in Wisconsin, along with four grandchildren; their third son, Enrique, lives in Utah, and their youngest, Jon, is in technical college in Illinois.

Gloria’s previous employment was as a quality assistant at Genesis Medical Center in Iowa, where she worked for 4½ years. Prior to that she was a mobilized National Guard member for nine years in Illinois with CBWTU-IL (Community Based Warrior Transition Unit). This mobilization took her from her home state of Wisconsin to Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, Ill. Her positions included NCOIC of the patient administration department, and then platoon sergeant for 40+ wounded warriors. She loved the Quad Cities so much she convinced Jim and Jon to join her and to sell their home in Wisconsin. Gloria began her military career at the age of 19 when she joined the U.S. Army as a medic; she was on active duty for six years and in the National Guard for 22. Her duty stations include South Carolina, Texas, Kansas, Washington, Germany and Panama.

Although their initial plan was to wait until they retired to move to Myrtle Beach, their decision came early once their youngest went off to college and granted them permission to leave the bitter cold. Gloria is fortunate to have a sister and family in Myrtle Beach and a brother on John’s Island, and she and Jim have now purchased their own home in the area. Gloria joined the Department of Academic and Community Outreach at Coastal Carolina University on March 1, 2018.

What’s coming up in the next few weeks that you don’t want to miss!

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Note: Unfortunately, the Greenville trip was cancelled due to under-enrollment. It seems as though our members no longer want regional excursions, even though we get many suggestions for places to visit. Perhaps the Biltmore trip will make, giving us incentive to plan more.
From the Director’s Desk
We have been reading through the spring 2019 course evaluations and the responses we have received to the current survey. We appreciate the time you have taken to give us feedback, and we will try, as always, to act on your suggestions as we plan future semesters. We especially love all the sweet comments and expressions of gratitude to the instructors and the staff. Your enthusiasm and appreciation of our program make all the long hours worthwhile.

While many of the comments we receive offer constructive criticism and suggestions that we can act upon, more often than not, the negative remarks are about aspects of the program over which we have no control. We have decided to address some of these complaints directly. We want you to know that we hear you and we often agree with you, but that there are constraints that limit our ability to do what you ask.

Let’s start with excursions. You would prefer that we use something other than the CCU vans for transportation. We feel the bumps too, and we know these are not luxury vehicles with the comfort you desire. Our decision to use the CCU vans comes down to our commitment to offer affordable travel opportunities for our members. If you compare our trips to the same ones offered by other local travel companies, you will note that our prices are lower. We can reserve the CCU vans before the semester begins and cancel without penalty. We pay a set rate per mile for these vehicles. If a trip is over 200 miles, we rent an Enterprise van through the university since that is the less expensive option. Since these vans do not have running boards, we have even purchased step stools for use on these trips. Volunteers and staff can easily receive certification to drive vans. If we reserve the CCU motor coach (only possible when it is not being used by athletics), that costs us $900 a day, and if we rent a bus from someone else, that runs $1200-$1400 a day. For motor coaches or buses, we must also secure certified drivers and cover their expenses. So for the typical day trips that now run $20-$75, we would have to charge $100-$155, and we would have to cancel if we did not have at least 23 enrolled.

The evaluations also reveal that you want more details about the excursions in the catalog, that you want a more exact itinerary emailed to you before the trip, and that you would like a precise estimation of our time of return. We do our best to give you the information you desire in a timely way, but please consider the difficulty we face. We begin planning each semester six months in advance, while we are in the midst of conducting business as usual: answering phone calls, assisting instructors, helping students, driving excursions, doing outreach, etc. Getting information from all the venues involved in 25-30 trips requires more phone calls and emails than you can imagine, and often, we have to send the catalog to the printers before many of the details are finalized. Even if we could nail down every itinerary as we schedule over 300 classes and special events in time to go to print, there simply is not room in the catalog for that level of detail. We try to email information to those who have registered 10 days before each trip, estimating times based on prior experience, mileage, and advice from the venues. But these are just estimates. Traffic, the time we end up spending at each stop, even the time it takes our passengers to use the restroom, load the van, or eat may alter the time we hope to return. You can help us do a better job with excursions by signing up early, not canceling at the last minute, answering our confirmation emails promptly, being on time, and following the guidelines established on the trip.

The comments that probably hurt us the most are the ones from folks in Myrtle Beach who feel OLLI has abandoned them. If you only knew how much the university worked to retain a presence on the north end. For the last year we were on 79th, we paid to have the septic tank pumped once a week so that sewage would not overflow in the facility. When the hospital ended the lease, we hired a realtor and spent over six months looking for property. The sad reality is that the state limits how much we can spend on a lease and there is no property in Myrtle Beach that suits our needs for that price. We talked about starting a capital campaign for building a facility as other OLLIs have done, but soon dismissed that notion since we have not even reached our very modest goals for donations over the last few years. We hated losing our Myrtle Beach center, and we miss the members who chose not to return, but we were left no choice but to do our best with what the university was able to provide given the state laws that govern institutions of higher education.

The OLLI Food Drive begins on October 18. We are collecting non-perishable items at both of our locations for the Coastal Carolina Food Pantry through November 1.

Fall Festival – Fun and Games in Conway
October 31, 12:30-5 p.m.
Halloween Movie Contest, Crafts, Cider Bocce, Horseshoes, Relay Races and More
How do you keep up with alterations in tax laws, a shifting economy and changes in personal circumstances that impact your financial future? What should you consider in making decisions that will affect you and your loved ones? Learn from experienced professionals who work in these fields.

**Tuesday, Oct. 15**
- Power of Attorney and Health Care Power of Attorney
- Wills and Probate

**Wednesday, Oct. 16**
- Investing Strategies and Wealth Protection for an Aging America
- Planning for and Living in Retirement

**Thursday, Oct. 17**
- Tax Issues When Planning Your Estate
- Health Care and Insurance Options

**Total cost for three-day event:**
- $45 OLLI members
- $55 Non-members

**Registration**
- **OLLI members:** coastal.edu/olli/currentcourses/
- **Non-members:** coastal.edu/endowment/givenow/estate

**For more information, contact**

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OLLI PHOTO GALLERY

Fall 2019 Yawkey excursion

Gloria and Anita, OLLI Outreach

Summer 2019 trip to Florence

Airlie Gardens, Wilmington

Boarding the boat for Yawkey

Nick DeStephano’s class